

## Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 260158

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PK

SUBJECT: SALE OF AQA-5 (JEZEBEL) TO PAKISTAN

REF: (A) ODRP 101110Z SEP 74; (B) STATE 241622

1. DEPARTMENT OF NAVY AND DOD/ISA HAVE INFORMED US THEY  
WOULD NOT CONCUR IN RELEASE OF AQA-5 ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE  
(ASW) SYSTEM TO PAKISTAN. THEY HAVE GIVEN FOLLOWING  
REASONS:

(A) THE AQA-5 EQUIPMENT ITSELF IS CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL  
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AND ANY INVOLVEMENT IN FOLLOW-ON TRAINING IN THE USE OF

THE AQA-5 COULD INVOLVE DISCLOSURE OF SECRET U.S. INFORMATION. IN EACH CASE AN EXCEPTION TO NATIONAL DISCLOSURE POLICY WOULD BE REQUIRED. NAVY HAS NO INTEREST IN SPONSORING SUCH EXCEPTIONS TO POLICY.

(B) THE AQA-5, WHILE NOT THE MOST ADVANCED EQUIPMENT IN THE USN ASW EQUIPMENT INVENTORY, IS THE PRIMARY SENSOR FOR AIRBORNE ASW OF OUR NATO AND AUSTRALIAN ALLIES. RELEASE OF THE MATERIAL IN QUESTION TO PAKISTAN WOULD CONSTITUTE AN UNWARRANTED RISK OF COMPROMISE OF THE EQUIPMENT AND OF

NATO/AUSTRALIAN ASW DETECTION AND ACOUSTIC PROCESSING TECHNIQUES.

(C) THE POSSIBILITY OF U.S. NUCLEAR SUBMARINE DETECTION WITH RESULTANT DISCLOSURE OF ACOUSTIC SIGNATURES BY THE PAKISTANI USE OF THE AQA-5 CANNOT BE DISCOUNTED.

2. DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES IMPORTANCE WHICH PAK MILITARY ATTACHES TO ACQUISITION OF THIS EQUIPMENT AND LIKELIHOOD THAT GOP WILL RAISE ISSUE TO POLITICAL LEVEL. IN VIEW OF DOD POSITION, HOWEVER, DEPT PLANS TO INFORM PAK EMBASSY THIS DECISION NOV 25 EMPHASIZING FACT THAT THIS SENSITIVE ASW SYSTEM HAS BEEN RELEASED ONLY TO NATO AND AUSTRALIAN ALLIES. WE WILL ALSO INFORMALLY REMIND PAKS THAT OTHER ASW SYSTEMS ARE AVAILABLE (THOUGH JEZEBEL IS THE BEST), AND THAT THE NATO MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT THEY HAVE PURCHASED FROM FRANCE NEED NOT BE RENDERED INEFFECTIVE BECAUSE OF THIS DECISION.

3. DECISION NOT TO RELEASE AQA-5 FOR REASONS OUTLINED IN PARA 1 ABOVE OBVIATES NEED FOR FORMAL POLICY DECISION AS TO WHETHER JEZEBEL COULD BE EXPORTED UNDER THE TERMS OF OUR ARMS SUPPLY POLICY TOWARD INDIA AND PAKISTAN. OUR INFORMAL JUDGMENT, HOWEVER, WAS THAT THIS EQUIPMENT COULD LOGICALLY QUALIFY AS NON-LETHAL END-ITEM COMPARABLE TO PASSIVE RADAR SYSTEMS. IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH GOP OFFICIALS YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT ARMS POLICY TOWARD SOUTH ASIA IS NOT AT ISSUE IN THIS CASE.

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4. YOU SHOULD INFORM GOP OF THIS DECISION DRAWING ON INFO IN PARAS 2 AND 3 ABOVE. OBVIOUSLY RATIONALE IN PARA ONE SHOULD NOT BE SHARED WITH PAK OFFICIALS.

5. FOR USNATO. WE UNDERSTAND THAT FRENCH SALE OF THREE NATO MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT TO PAKISTAN (REFTEL B) DID NOT INCLUDE AQA-5 SYSTEM. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION THAT FRENCH HAVE EVER APPROACHED US EXPRESSING WISH TO SELL

THIS EQUIPMENT TO PAKS, BUT YOU MAY DRAW ON ABOVE SHOULD  
QUESTION ARISE. INGERSOLL

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NNN

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